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SPIRITUALISM'S PICTORIAL JOURNAL

TRUTH The PSYCHIC OBSERVER

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SEMI-MONTHLY

DECEMBER 25, 1945

10 CENTS

Christmas Time IS Family Time

ALLOW THAT JOYOUS SPIRIT POWER TO
OPERATE — FEEL AND RADIATE IT
EVEN AS LITTLE CHILDREN

A Yuletide Message from Juliette Ewing Pressing

Let Real Love Flow From
Your Heart. It Won't Be
Play-Acting. You Will En-
joy It. Then Continue
Throughout the Year.

Christmas time is family time. Even though one has been absent and has not written a letter to friends and family during the year, when the holiday season rolls around the mind and heart is flooded with loving thoughts that must be expressed.

So it is with me. Many months have passed since I've written an article but I have thought of you all many times and have answered thousands of letters.

This journal is unlike most publications in that the readers, for the most part, have a personal interest and seem to feel we are one big family.

In these days, when everybody is talking about the brotherhood of man, it is a good beginning when we, as *Spiritualists*, can begin putting into action, some of the teachings of this thing we call brotherly love.

"Here and There"

The one big *Psychic Observer* family is a good idea. We can unite in thought for harmony. These thoughts can wing around the world. We can provide an immense battery for universal power.

The spirit teachers tell me that a focal point must be furnished by earth people before spirit energy can be released for their work on the physical plane. It is an inspiring thought and helps us understand why we are so very important in God's plan.

By living in peace and harmony we can contribute to reconstructive work, both "here and there."

The following lines, beautifully express a thought that is conducive to tolerance and good-will. . .

If We Knew Each Other

"If I knew you, and you knew me —
If both of us could clearly see,
And with an inner sight divine
The meaning of your heart and mine —
I'm sure that we would differ less,
And clasp our hands in friendliness;
Our thoughts would pleasantly agree,
If I knew you and you knew me."

My reason for writing this, I'll call it a letter (I shall not adhere to form but will write intimately) is because my heart is filled with loving thoughts for all of you, the *Psychic Observer* family.

Now perhaps you will be interested in what I am doing. Last summer, due to restricted travel

conditions, I was unable to accept invitations to attend camp meetings, except *Lily Dale* (home) and *Chesterfield*, which is on a main line of the *New York Central R.R.* and is very accessible.

While at the latter Camp, I attended many seances. For those who have not visited *Chesterfield Spiritualist Association* and personally witnessed remarkable demonstrations, the report of a test seance should be of interest.

Quite a large group were booked for an apport seance held by Rev. John Bunker, Eaton Rapids, Mich. After the lights were extinguished the little spirit girl, *Thistle*, suggested we have a test seance. Rev. Bunker, who at the time was not entranced, heartily agreed.

Real Test Conditions

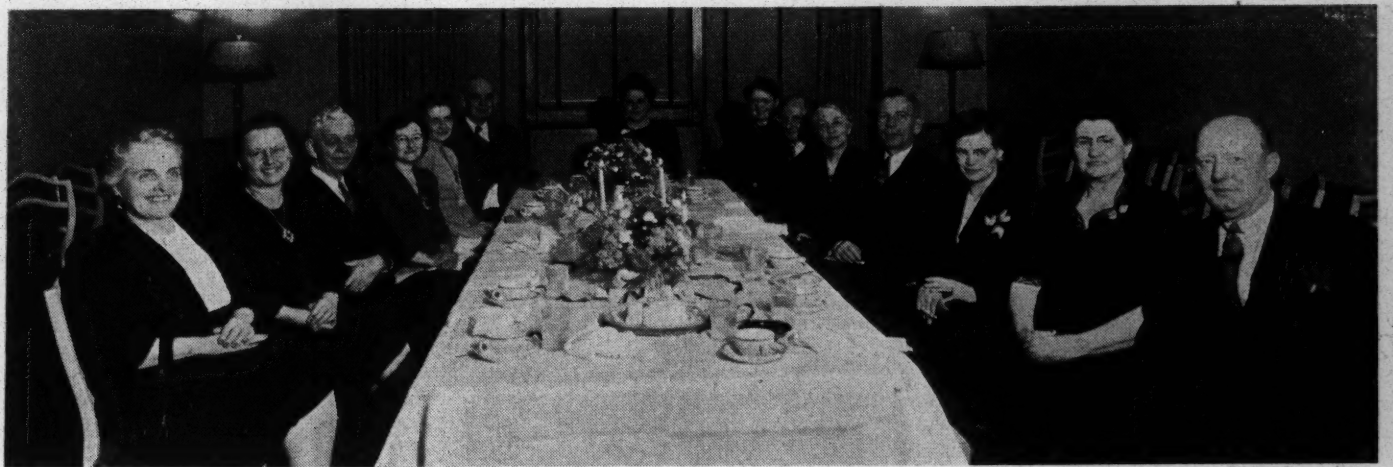
Thistle chose the persons who should sit to control the medium. I was one selected. This pleased me because I could report to you what happened, how it happened and could say, "I know that I know. I was there. I controlled the medium."

Apport phenomena is startling. Unless one has had the experience of being present it is difficult for the mind to accept the fact that matter can be broken down and made to pass through solid walls. But it happens. So as not to let my report stand solely upon my testimony, I asked for a signed report. Here it is:

Chesterfield, Indiana
August 10, 1945

At an apport seance with John W. Bunker on the above date, three persons sat in close contact with the medium;

A Merry Christmas from The Psychic Observer Family



The picture above was taken during the annual *Psychic Observer* banquet held at Hotel Jamestown, Jamestown, N. Y. Left to Right: Edna Berneider Frawley (*), Ebba Johnson (†), Louis E. Ruden (†), Ann P. Miller (*), Helen Candy (*), Ernest Cawcroft (‡), Juliette Ewing Pressing (*), Evelyn Hubartt (*), George Staley (*), Anna Foster (*), George Bergquist (†), Gertrude Gens (*), Bernice Heath (*) and R. G. Pressing (*).

(*) *Psychic Observer* staff, Dale News, Inc., Lily Dale, N. Y.

(†) Pri-Ad Corporation, Jamestown, N. Y. — Printers of *Psychic Observer*.

(‡) Jamestown Attorney-at-law for *Psychic Observer*.

Coleen O. Britt, Juliette Ewing Pressing and Irene M. Lewis, R.N.

Each time, after the person sitting in contact with the medium had testified to the fact that his (the medium's) hands were not free, every other member of the circle joined hands, then counted off around the circle to make sure that no person had left the circle.

After these test conditions had been imposed, the following phenomena took place:

Every person saw a light appear over the head of the person sitting in contact with the medium, and in a few moments an apport was placed on the head or in the hair of that person. We consider this act an absolute impossibility for human hands to have accomplished. This was done for each of the above three persons named.

Following the above tests, the circle was resumed and every person present received an apport, placed in their hands or lap, and which appeared first in the center of a white cloud.

SIGNED:

Juliette Ewing Pressing, Lily Dale, N. Y.; Irene M. Lewis, R.N., 505 E. Armstrong St., Peoria, Illinois; Lorraine J. Gottschalk, 128 W. Hazard, Zone 4, Peoria, Illinois; Rhoda Miller, 1210 W. 5th Ave., Gary, Indiana; William F. Miller, 1210 West 5th Ave., Gary, Indiana; Willard E. Soper, 3734 Home Ave., Berwyn, Illinois; Mildred Soper, 3734 Home Ave., Berwyn, Illinois; Leola Mills, R. 2, Erie, Michigan; Irma I. Mills,

(Continued on Page 9, Col. 1)

God's Love Is The Star of Bethlehem

Its Glory-Light Is Already Here!

Look, Fellow Spiritualists! See It Rising

MILLIONS HUNGER for
SPIRITUAL TRUTH

By

DORTCH CAMPBELL
Clarksdale, Mississippi

God's gift to the world was given at Christmas. God gave because of a fatherly love for the world, and that which was given was Love. The need for that gift is the greatest today in all human history. *Jesus of Nazareth* showed the way whereby men can gain the greatest thing in the world, can any man ask for more? So then

by this sign I know how divine he was.

God has never left himself without witness of his love, according to the *Apostle*. Torchbearers have come in every generation, filling the earth with gladness — *Rama, Krishna, Orpheus, Hermes, Moses, Pythagoras, the Buddha, Lao-Tzu, Apollonius of Tyana, Mohammed.*

Oh! There is a most imposing galaxy of the spiritually great. But there never was one sweeter, finer, more majestic, more appealing, than *Jesus of Nazareth*. He was the great wayshower, and the *Star of Bethlehem*, gleaming afar with its love, still shines down upon us though rather wistfully.

The Great Purpose

I want you to know there is nothing that equals the power of love. You who fear to take love out into the world are only a caricature of what you might be. You can actually love yourself out of ill health, old age, failure and desperation. You have been called and chosen to live and love your way through these particular years when new continents of human values are arising out of the seas of war.

You have been brought forth for some great purpose. Think of this significance—you are created to live now in the greatest age of all human history out of all the billions of souls who have come and gone from this earth! What have

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 1)

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The Meaning of Christmas

None of us DARE relax in our efforts to assist in bringing about the real CHRISTMAS in the hearts and minds of men and women everywhere.

IS LOVE SPASMODIC and PERIODIC?

By

EDWARD A. LOHMAN
St. Petersburg, Florida

He is the author of a set of lessons "How To Achieve"; also the booklets "Fear Not" and "I Have Found It" (See Page 7).

I must confess that at times I feel a little in doubt about this Christmas Spirit which we so lavishly bestow upon our families, our friends and our relatives. That is, I wonder at times whether it is real and genuine, or whether it is a sort of exaggerated "make-believe."

Whether we honestly mean it, or whether we dishonestly just pretend. If we are honest in our showering of gifts upon friends and loved ones, and if it really and truly expresses our affection for them, why do we do it only one day out of three hundred and sixty-five? Why do we do it only on Christmas day?

If we are not honest in our giving, and we only give because we feel me "must give" because of having received, then we are false and untrue, and Christmas has lost its meaning.

Love and Give

Love really is the key-note to Christmas. "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son." Love and giving, giving and love, are forever united. If we really and truly give, we must also really and truly love. If we love with all our hearts, we must likewise give with all our hearts. Any other kind of loving or giving is false and not to be desired.

Personally, I am not so great an enthusiast any more about this one day in the year which we name Christmas. Of course, it is nice to see the smiling faces and hear the merry laughter and sense the friendly feeling.

Of course it is fine to have the boss shake hands with you and say Merry Christmas, even if it is only once a year.

Of course it is a grand and glorious feeling to have hubby put his arms around you and press a kiss upon the cheek, even though it is the only one you received all year.

Only At Christmas?

Of course we like to see the friendly spirit of fellowship amongst the different churches and organizations, even if it is a strain.

Of course it is fine to have the butcher, baker and candlestick maker mail us a "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" for your continued business throughout the coming year.

Of course it is loving and Christian-like to mail a card to all the relatives near and far and half forgotten.

But why all of this only at Christmas time?

False Doctrines

Is love spasmodic or periodic? Is it such that it can only be aroused and stimulated by giving of gifts, even as they of old laid their fattened calves upon the altars of sacrifice to appease an angry God?

Must I wait for the return of another Christmas in order to be assured of my wife's or children's love and affection?

Can I not know the love of a friend until another year? Have

we lost the true meaning and purpose of Christmas?

God so loved, that's the spirit, that is the meaning of the day. He so loved that He just had to give. He did not give that you and I should love. It is a false doctrine which says, you must or ought to love God because He gave His son Jesus to die for you. That is false. He loved the world, His gift was love pure and simple.

Peace On Earth?

It is love that will sacrifice, it is love that allows itself to be crucified, it is love that heals, it is love that is wise and understands all things, it is love that will suffer and not hurt, it is love that will conquer the world.

No one shall find God until they find Him in real, genuine, human and divine love. It is the only thing that God could give, for God is love, and love is God. When once we understand this lesson of love, and practice it three hundred and sixty-five days a year, then—don't you see—that what the angels sang, "Peace on earth good will toward men," shall be literally true?

We shall not rightly interpret Christmas day until we fill every day with unselfish love and living. All other pretension of a religious life, and all this festivity and elaborate celebration of a Christmas day shall continue to be mere mockery, unless our lives shall exemplify a love which knows no time.

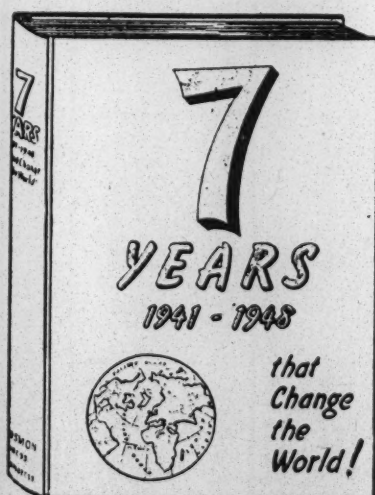
Just Before Christmas

As a matter of contrast between the time just before the birth of Jesus and today, just before we are again to celebrate that day—this Christmas of 1945—I find there were many conditions existing then that were very similar to conditions we find all about us to—

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to locate any book for you—either new or used. In our stock of over 8000 used books, we may have that rare psychic book you are looking for. If not we will make every effort to obtain it for you. All of our used books are not listed on pages 6 and 7—especially if we have only one or two copies of any one title. May we serve you?

HE WILL ENJOY IT



This book "SEVEN YEARS" (1941-1948) sells for \$2.50 (Dale News Inc., Lily Dale, N. Y.). It is written by Wing Anderson and is in its thirteenth printing. It deals with the "SEVEN YEARS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD" and contains a collection of prophecies and their analysis.

Other important topics covered in the book are: the "Creator's Cosmic Clock"; "Origin and Destiny of Man"; "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" and an interpretation of the 1940 "Writing on the Wall" with a road map to safety.

day. The pivot upon which the old had turned into the new was in reality the occasion for which we are again preparing to celebrate, the birth of Jesus.

The birth of a great character is always the sign for new things and a new order. There were many who knew what the birth of a soul such as Jesus would mean to an old regime and order of political and religious orthodoxy.

When the World Needs

Just before Christmas 1900 years ago there was moral stench and drunkenness even as there is today. Things were not right before the birth of Jesus, else He would not have been born. Only when people begin to disintegrate and become too corrupt does a change seem necessary.

Great men always appear when the world needs them. Just before Christmas then there was all manner of corruption, even in the high places. There was exploitation and graft and treason then as now, just before Christmas. There were the poor and the hungry; the sick, the lame and the halt. There were men without jobs, women and children without shelter and clothing. There were the plutocrats as also the aristocrats. The few who ruled the many, and the rich who crushed the poor.

The Real Christmas

But how does the past with all its history of events really affect your life and mine? What does all of the world's turmoil and unrest really mean for us? After all, it is not what any doctrine or theology says or teaches about Christmas, it is what you and I understand about it.

Now two thousand years after the first Christmas, where do we find ourselves just before Christmas. Has the real Christmas really been brought any nearer, or are we drifting back into a religious and social life of formalism and rites and rituals such as existed just before the birth of Jesus?

Is it possible that we are moving further away from the real Christmas rather than coming closer to it? Just before the dawn of that new day, inequality was rife in every place. There was no respect for poor and unfortunate. They were left to perish by the temple gates and starve by the wayside.

No one cared whether a man had food or home or comfort until Jesus came with his new doctrine of tolerance and compassion. Today, just before Christmas, there are thousands who are hungry and ill clad within the gates of our rich cities.

Today, just before Christmas, thousands are being killed and slaughtered all over the world, some in the name of war, others in the name of the law.

A Master Needed

Today, just before Christmas, there is cruelty, sin and disease on every hand. Children abused, babies forsaken in the streets and alleys of our cities; old mothers and old fathers forsaken and forgotten. Listen to the voice of humanity which cries to us from the hovels and shacks of one of America's proudest cities, New York.

Let me tell you my friends, none of us dare relax in our efforts to assist in bringing about the real Christmas in the hearts and minds of men and women everywhere. We need a Master, a Christ born again in our consciousness. We need another Manger, another Bethlehem, some more shepherds and wise men. Where is Mary; where is Joseph? Can it be you, can it be me—just before Christmas?

FAMOUS SPIRITUALIST PASSES AWAY AT LOS ANGELES



Psychic Observer

DR. CARL A. WICKLAND passed away November 13th, according to a communication received from NELLE M. WATTS, secretary of The National Psychological Institute. He was president and founder of this Institute and author of two books, "Thirty Years Among the Dead" and "Gateway of Understanding." (See page 7)

Dr. Wickland was born February 14, 1861, in the village of Liden, Province of Norland, Sweden. At the age of 19 he came to the U. S. A., locating at St. Paul, Minnesota; graduated from Dunham Medical College of Chicago in 1900; for 10 years he treated mental cases at The National Psychopathic Institute of that city.

For the last thirty years, he carried on research work in normal and abnormal psychology—being assisted by his wife until her passing in 1937.

In the field of psychic research, Dr. Wickland was well known for his deft handling of cases of obsession. He was a representative of the U.S.A. at the International Spiritualist Congress (1937) at Glasgow, Scotland, where he presented a "paper" on his specialized system of spiritual healing and obsession cures through the trance instrumentality of his own wife.

Christmas IN THE Spirit World

By

SILVER BIRCH

Indian Spirit Collaborator for the "Hannen Swaffer Home Circle"

The festival celebrated in the higher spheres at Christmas and attended by many Indian spirit guides was discussed by Silver Birch at Hannen Swaffer's home circle.

"I would not go were it not that there is a great need for me to be charged once again with the power at its source," commented the guide.

"Do you not find that you can

get recharged from he was asked.

"Not really," was the reply, "because the source of energy is not to be found in your world. The longer I stay away from my true home the more attenuated becomes the links with it and the more difficult it is for power to reach me.

"I am like a diver with a life-line who has wandered far down into a very deep ocean. The air, in my case, gets less and less vital as it reaches me, and in the end I have to return so that I can receive enough inspiration, power, sustenance, whatever word you like to use, to fill my lungs to enable me to carry on for another period.

How They Return

"All the difficulties of distress, all the uncertainty in people's hearts and minds, all the fear, all these interfere with the source of supply, for they are vibrating the atmosphere, the atmosphere that we have to inhabit whilst we work near your world."

"Do you meet at the same place?" the guide was asked.

"When you use the word 'place' it does not quite describe what happens," said the guide. "It is a condition of consciousness."

"Are you able to find the same condition?" was the next question.

"There are degrees of it," the guide replied. "I always find my real self, but the degree of it varies, for whilst I have to cut myself off from your world for a time, I still have to keep open a channel to enable me to return. It is like the silver cord attached to the body. If I cut it completely, I cannot come back, unless I start all over again, and that is far too long and involved a process.

Gradual Withdrawal

"I gradually release my hold on all the threads of your world, retaining, with those who help me, one link with the body, not the medium's body, but the body which I use in this astral world. Then, gradually, as I relinquish the threads, I seem to soar upwards, but that is only a symbol, for it is a return gradually to an awakening consciousness which expands and expands and expands.

The more of the consciousness that has to be expressed, the farther away, again, in terms of your language, have I to be from the links which hold me to your world. So it is all a question of degree."

Lifting Man's Burden

Finally the guide said: "I go to get more power so that I can do more work through all the days of darkness until we can send our great message resounding all over your world and help to lift the burden that bears humanity down, crushing many of its children.

The Dawn of a New Light . . .

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A Psychic History of Religion

This is the sixth in a series of articles written by one of America's leading ministers of the religion of Spiritualism.

Articles to follow: In Greece and Rome; In Judea.

IN CHINA

By

REV. M. McBRIDE PANTON
Minister for the Albertson Memorial
Church of Spiritualism, Stamford,
Connecticut

Here, from the earliest times to the present day, is a nation without parallel in the world—a purely spiritist nation.

At the beginning of authentic history, the right to worship the spirits of Heaven and Earth was taken away from the common people and made a function of government. The citizen was allowed to worship only his own ancestors and the genius of his threshold or his oven.

Only the Emperor had the right to worship and sacrifice to Heaven and Earth, the rivers, mountains, etc. India's intoxication with God was the result of freedom of worship. China came to know no other religion than ancestor worship—and as a consequence, knew no God until Lao Tze taught Tao.

Soul's Existence

The Chinese have always made a sharp distinction between the body and the soul. Such distinction is fundamental to his thought and motivation. Even that profoundly materialistic philosopher, Confucius, taught, "They look up to the sky, and bury the body in the earth. The corporeal p'o goes downward, and the conscious ch'i is on high."

In fact, no one in China seems even to have questioned the continued existence of the soul after its separation from the body. And the dead were known to possess all the powers that they possessed on earth, plus a few newly gained powers. Of the good King Wen, the Shi-King says,

"Unseen by men, he still felt seen

By spirits always near.

Unwearied did he maintain
His virtue pure and free
from stain."

In another place, we read, "Our ancestors descend in their majesty . . . enjoy the offerings, and their filial descendant obtains their blessing. Him will they reward with great bounties."

The Lowly Planchette

Not only did the Chinese believe that the soul continued to exist after death, but he was equally certain that he could communicate with that soul or Shen.

As early as 2224 B. C., there are recorded instances of Chinese at-



Psychic Observer
CONFUCIUS, the profoundly materialistic philosopher, who, like most Chinese, believed in Spirit Return. He was a Spiritist but not a Spiritualist.

tempting to communicate by means of a tortoise shell covered with ink and dried over a fire. The lines of the cracks thus formed were reputed to be controlled by spirits and were "read" by one competent. Another method of such divination was by letting fall different sized sticks of the Yarrow Plant and then "reading" the diagrams they made.

The lowly planchette was also known. It was called chi and consisted of a bough with two long branches and a short one. Like our divining rods, it was held by the two long branches and the short branch wrote on paper or in sand.

Chinese Mediums

These methods were, however, as uncertain as they remain today, and communication soon became the chief function of the psychic medium or wu. Mediumship was early cultivated by the Chinese and virtually all phases of mediumship were known and employed.

Wang Ch'ung, skeptical philosopher of the first century, wrote, "Among men the dead speak through living persons whom they throw into a trance; and the wu, thrumming their black chords, call down souls of the dead, which then speak through the mouths of the wu."

These wu possessed definite clairvoyance. In the reign of King Kuei-ming, two wu identified the grave of a princess by describing the clothes in which she was buried. The grave was opened and the garments were found as described.

In the year 888 a wu said to Lo Hung-hsin, "An old grey-haired man sends me to you with the expression of his gratitude; you are destined to become the owner of this earth. Hung-hsin later became emperor."

Strange Beliefs

Inspirational and automatic writing, movement of objects without contact, direct-voice and materialization are all recorded.

An amusing seance of Li Hsiang and a wu has been recorded. The wu, a woman, said, "Under a tree in front of this hall I see a man in a red robe. He says he is Lu Tsung-shi, late second superintendent of the Boards. Go welcome him in."

Li Hsiang went and politely invited the spirit to enter. The Superintendent is coming in, reported the wu. A voice was heard in the air saying, "Lu Tsung-shi was strangled with a bow-string

in this very hall. He hates such strings, therefore please remove the bow that hangs on your divan."

Li Hsiang did so and then sat down. The wu cried, "You have shown a great discourtesy to the Superintendent, who is of higher rank than you, in sitting down first, and he is going away in anger. Run after him and stop him."

Secondary Consort

Li Hsiang hastened to make apologies, and heard a voice saying, "So gross a mistake, you presume to sit down in my presence! After many entreaties, the wu announced that the Superintendent had at last consented to return. What has the gentleman to ask?" said a voice in the air. He most humbly begs to be favored with a word telling him whether glory or distress shall be in store for him, said the wu. The voice in the air answered, "He shall be welcomed at the capital by many people; in a month after his arrival in the city he shall be prefect of Wu-Chou."

Not only was the direct-voice known, but also materialization. We find in the History of the South that under the Emperor Hsiao Wu "there was a wu who could see spirits, and who assured the Emperor that it would be possible to make his deceased secondary consort appear. The Emperor was very glad of it, and bade him evoke her. In a few minutes she was actually seen on a curtain in the shape which she had been when alive. The Emperor desired to speak to her, but she remained silent; and just as he would fain have grasped her hand, she vanished."

Reverence for Confucius

Another account reads, "In that house the spirit occasionally showed its shape, and then it was perceived that above the loins it was like an attractive woman; but below the loins it was always veiled as if by a cloud. She could play beautifully on the lute; and when her voice chimed in, it was so sweet and pleasant that all who listened forgot their cares."

All Chinese were spiritists—virtually none were spiritualists. Their concerns were limited to mundane affairs. Their reverence for Confucius is an indication of their highly materialistic view of life. Even Buddhism, when transplanted to China, lost its vital living breath of genuine and profound revelation and became an admixture of magical formula, rationalization and mummery.

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By OLGA A. TILDES



Olga A. Tildes

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(P-172-X-177)

HERE ARE THE FACTS ABOUT CHRISTMAS

In "The Golden Bough," the masterpiece written by Sir James Frazer, probably the greatest expert on mythology and comparative religion, there appears in the index:

"Christmas, festival of, borrowed from the Mithraic religion; heathen origin of."

Here is Frazer's description of the origin of Christmas in language that is masterly in its understatement:

Why did the Christian Church choose to celebrate Christmas on December 25th?

IN respect both of doctrines and of rites the cult of Mithra appears to have presented many points of resemblance not only to the religion of the Mother of the Gods but also to Christianity.

The similarity struck the Christian doctors themselves and was explained by them as a work of the devil, who sought to seduce the souls of men from the true faith by a false and insidious imitation of it.

There can be no doubt that the Mithraic religion proved a formidable rival to Christianity, combining as it did a solemn ritual with aspirations after moral purity and a hope of immortality. Indeed the issue of the conflict between the two faiths appears for a time to have hung in the balance.

Borrowed From Rival

An instructive relic of the long struggle is preserved in our festival of Christmas, which the Church seems to have borrowed directly from its heathen rival. In the Julian calendar the twenty-fifth of December was reckoned the winter solstice, and it was regarded as the Nativity of the Sun, because the day begins to lengthen and the power of the sun to increase from that turning-point of the year.

The ritual of the nativity, as it appears to have been celebrated in Syria and Egypt, was remarkable. The celebrants retired into certain inner shrines, from which at midnight they issued with a loud cry, "The Virgin has brought forth! The light is waxing!"

The Egyptians even represented the new-born sun by the image of

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Author and Publisher

TRALL ENGLE, Van Wert, Ohio

(P-175)

an infant which on his birthday, the winter solstice, they brought forth and exhibited to his worshippers. No doubt the Virgin who thus conceived and bore a son on the twenty-fifth of December was the great Oriental goddess whom the Semites called the Heavenly Virgin or simply the Heavenly Goddess; in Semitic lands she was a form of Astarte.

Christians of Egypt

Now Mithra was regularly identified by his worshippers with the Sun, the Unconquered Sun, as they called him; hence his nativity also fell on the twenty-fifth of December. The Gospels say nothing as to the day of Christ's birth, and accordingly the early Church did not celebrate it.

In time, however, the Christians of Egypt came to regard the sixth of January as the date of the Nativity, and the custom of commemorating the birth of the Saviour on that day gradually spread until the fourth century it was universally established in the East.

But at the end of the third or the beginning of the fourth century the Western Church, which never recognized the sixth of January as the day of the Nativity, adopted the twenty-fifth of December as the true date, and in time its decision was accepted also by the Eastern Church. At Antioch the change was not introduced till about the year 375.

Frank About Legend

What considerations led the ecclesiastical authorities to institute the festival of Christmas? The motives for the innovation are stated with great frankness by a Syrian writer, himself a Christian. "The reason," he tells us, "why the fathers transferred the celebration of the sixth of January to the twenty-fifth of December was this. It was a custom of the heathen to celebrate on the same twenty-fifth of December the birthday of the Sun, at which they kindled lights in token of festivity. In these solemnities and festivities the Christians also took part."

"Accordingly when the doctors of the Church perceived that the Christians had a leaning to this festival, they took counsel and resolved that the true Nativity should be solemnized on that day and the festival of the Epiphany on the sixth of January. Accordingly, along with this custom, the practice has prevailed of kindling fires till the sixth."

Thus it appears that the Christian Church chose to celebrate the birthday of its Founder on the twenty-fifth of December in order to transfer the devotion of the heathen from the Sun to him who was called the Sun of Righteousness.

If that was so, there can be no intrinsic improbability in the conjecture that motives of the same sort may have led the ecclesiastical authorities to assimilate the Easter festival of the death and resurrection of their Lord to the festival of another Asiatic god which fell at the same season.

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Star of Bethlehem

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 5)

you been called and chosen for? To help love the world out of its misery and confusion like the ancient Galilean.

You may tell me that the Nazarene was only a man like one of us. Yes, I fully understand your point-of-view and I know that mass thought carried on for centuries has given tremendous power to His Name. Still, I feel the divinity of the Christ Soul.

Surely, no man has ever sung the cosmic music so grandly as the Nazarene.

God's Beneficence

That music has taken away some of the shadows from the world yet that power he came for has hardly been touched. His divine simplicity was, is and always will be refreshment for starved souls. A mere glimpse of it lifts the heart. His is purer than the souls of John or Peter or Paul and Silas, or any other in that galaxy of torch-bearers.

The ether literally pulsates with the power of his teachings even in this skeptical age. The beauty—Ah, the wonder—of what he taught! Unusual, startling, astounding, yes, all this and more, too, and yet so natural, so brave, so true, and so simple. So simple that even a child may understand.

God's beneficence for a troubled world, manifest through the Christ, is a whispering hope. In a generation of crises such as ours it is the only solvent we can find for all the heartbreaks and the tears. His word is potent for the individual.

What Paul Said:

It is even more so for world arrogance, struggle and confusion resultant of the pomp of dynasties and the deceit and hypocrisies, of proud demagogues. Perhaps yet a triumphant democracy will encompass the earth as a result of his teachings. Certainly the *Star of Bethlehem* beckons for a compact of nations, a comprehensive world confederacy.

What can that cosmic music that he sang be if not love? That love he gave is no maudlin sentiment for suckling babes. It is not something for amateurs. It is not creeds that are mere words. It is not even education. The Christ love is dynamic with God's power. "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become as sounding brass," said Paul.

The Song of Songs

Even the idea of sphere music does not well explain this tremendous power. If there is a music of the spheres surely there is a song of God. We vibrate to it, we are surrounded by it, we are immersed in it. Love is the song of songs. These human ears have not been able to catch its tone and pitch; we do not listen for it. But it is there; God wants it and The Christ taught it.

What is this thing called Love? Is it not God within the human ego realizing the Universe? Is it not the life of God making planets revolve in space, worlds tumbling in rotation, transforming, changing man, worlds and man all in a flux?

Love Solves

Love is the heart and soul singing praises to the light. This is the highest of its manifestation, something divine, but it also reaches out into the physical, giving body energy. Though love is love and wisdom and spiritual life it is also

something very practical, and I have never found anybody who, knowing how, could not love away his problems.

I think it is the major principle of the prayer that gives so much power. You can use love to solve every one of life's problems no matter what they may be. Try to see what you can do with it. Throw love out of your heart for not only persons but the conditions around you in your environment. Its magic powers will astound you. There never was anything like it.

Landone's Passing

What is this we call death? Do you really wish me to tell you? Then I will answer you that death of the body comes when all its love leaves. The body ceases to function as an instrument of the soul only when all the loves of life have gone.

Brown Landone, who went away not so long ago at ninety-seven years, lived so long because he loved so much. The secret of his constant and habitual rejuvenation was love.

I have not personally known anybody who loved so much as Brown Landone. He transformed himself from a weakling in boyhood to a man of strength by loving. He not only loved persons but he loved life. So you see that love can become a very practical power even at the foundations of life.

Churches Starving

In the storm that is coming up out of the world, the church, and

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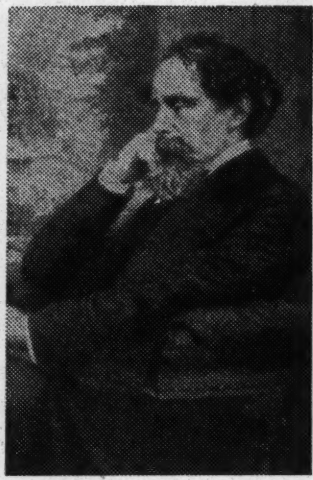
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A Spirit Christmas Carol

by Charles Dickens

"This account is taken from 'The Next World,' which gives fifty-six communications from eminent historians, authors, legislators, etc., now in spirit life, through Mrs. Susan G. Horn." The book was published 50 years ago by James Burns, the British pioneer Spiritualist, who testified to its being "a genuine mediumistic production."

A note explains how this account was received: "It was a cold, dark evening in December; the snow fell heavily in the streets of New York; we had not thought of Dickens, and knew not what was coming, when the medium closed her eyes and began, as though declaiming from a book, the following carol."



Psychic Observer
CHARLES DICKENS

"I hope for the enlargement of my mind and for the improvement of my understanding. If I have done but little good, I trust I have done less harm, and that none of my adventures will be other than a source of amusing and pleasant recollections."—"Pickwick"

for that matter all men and women, will be compelled to widen its vision to comprehend the whole vista of life's love.

The church can not expect to keep itself from starving on old creeds. The millions are hungry for something else. They hunger for love. Love is to be a challenge to the spectres of old idolatries, traditions and creeds. It is well! Let the husks of the past go! Let the dead bury their dead! We must and shall look to a world of new sweetness.

Whispering Hope

I perceive that even now the morning star of Bethlehem is hastening down the darkness. Dawn is coming up like thunder. A new age is being ushered in. Dim though it may be, something of its glory-light is already here. You who have labored so long as pioneers in Spiritualism; look, my friends! You can see the Star of the Nazarene rising above the spires of institutions and their doctrines and creeds. Yes, the Christ's love is that whispering hope!

DOWN, down falls the Christmas snow, circling down in soft baby-like flakes, as white-souled messengers from an unknown world. Down they fall, dotting the hedges, and whitening the plains and lanes of the open country.

Down, down they fall, spreading in little patches over the tattered and stained coat of an old man, foot-sore and hungry, crouching against the snow-tipped hedge. He tossed up his last copper on Christmas Eve, and lost that; he has had a long, long tramp since, and has been groping over those cold, long weary miles, for some stray coin dropped by his god, Chance, the only God he has ever known.

Final Hope

Chance has frowned on him this Christmas Day, and he sinks exhausted by the wayside. Poor old Duffer! Friendless, and homeless, wifeless and childless; it has gone hard with him this merry Christmas, and he thinks as he sits there, too nerveless to rise, what a lucky chance it would be is some fine gentleman should pass by and drop him a sixpence or a shilling for his Christmas.

Faintly sound upon his ear the happy chimes from the distant cathedral tower. Soft and white the snow falls, creeping nearer and nearer, like some sheltering friend; and his hungry, eager gaze dies out in a helpless look of endurance.

The Unknown Highway

The snow falls faster and faster; the cold pierces deeper and deeper; he makes an effort to rise, but he cannot; his limbs are stiff with cold and famine, and yet life is dear to him.

Life has been with him a constant conflict with the elements, a mere animal struggle for existence, against earth's contending forces; and now, in his last moments, his only thought and wish is, that some kind gentleman would give him a sixpence, wherewith to buy a mug of ale and a slice of bacon for his Christmas dinner.

Ring out, Christmas bells! another immortal soul is about to commence a long tramp over the Unknown Highway!

Phantom Gentleman

The snow falls white; his weary body and tattered garments are alike covered by its pure cold robe. Now slowly he raises his half-palsied arm and touches his battered cap. He is making his exit from the world! He bows, but it is to a phantom gentleman, who suddenly stands before him. He is too far gone to question whence he came.

Is it the kind gentleman with the friendly sixpence, whom he has been looking for? Is he some good Christian from the cathedral town who has heard his hungry cry, or some noble lord from the neighboring park? He dreamily asks himself these questions as the friendly person approaches nearer, takes him by the arm, and places

to his parched lips a generous, life-reviving cordial.

Surely this must be the chance gentleman he has been thinking of all this Christmas Day. Presently this unknown friend lifts him from the snowbound hedge, and leads him to a curious chariot, gay as the fiery chariot of Elijah. He resists at first; the kindness is too much for him; he is not used to such attentions, and shakes his head, and draws back.

The Invitation

But when the gentleman in answer to his hesitation, says "Come, my friend, I will take you to a good inn, where you shall have your Christmas dinner," he yields to the good chance, and they vanish together.

Together they glide on, on, over the spires of the cathedral; they hear the chimes ringing out for Christmas, but no one sees them in their golden chariot. The good Christians eat their dinner, and cast not one thought to the poor wretches dying from cold and hunger, beneath the snowy hedges of merry old England, on Christmas Day!

Ring out, spirit-world Christmas bells, for the poor who die on Christmas Days! Poor homeless waifs of humanity, for once they shall have a merry Christmas.

The Psychic Observer

Registered Trade Mark

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Christmas Time Is Family Time

(Continued from Page 1, Col. 3)

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Have You Passed the Stage?

I give names and addresses, so you can write to corroborate what I tell you. Furthermore, while each of us controlled the medium, by holding his hands and feet, each person in the circle held hands and counted out: "Number one holding hands, number two holding hands," until the entire group was counted back to number one.

Some people ask, "What is the value of physical demonstrations?" and say "My desire is to unfold my higher spiritual powers; I want to receive the Master teachings. I've passed the stage where phenomena is necessary."

Be that as it may. In my opinion, the phenomena has inestimable value for both student and investigator. Of course, it is also of utmost importance that the philosophy of Spiritualism be taught but in this world where such great concern is centered on physical and material welfare, it is very difficult for the average student to remain poised and balanced, supremely confident that God's power will sustain him and guide him through joys and strifes.

Have You Felt It?

For the investigator who has only heard about the spirit power—the Christ power—Infinite Intelligence that guides and directs us in all our ways, the phenomena is necessary.

Physical man with his five senses must actually see there is a power that operates beyond what he has previously known. He is challenged to prove it for himself in his own life by following the rules for spiritual unfoldment.

When one actually knows that the power of spirit operates—feels it, sees what it does—then a philosophy can be built into ones consciousness and the philosophy can and will stand any test.

This first Christmas after the

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PYTHAGOREAN SOCIETY, Dept. P
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war will long be remembered. Many boys from across the seas will be home again. Many who made the supreme sacrifice will not return in the physical body but will be present though invisible except to those who can see with spirit eyes.

To the Mothers and Fathers of the missing ones, I suggest that you play act. Pretend you see and hear your boys who are "dead". By so doing, you will be happier and "they" will be overjoyed. You may think you are pretending but it will not seem so to them.

Medium Recommended

I've talked in seances to many of the soldier boys. Most of them are happy in their new environment. Their worry and distress is that they cannot seem to reach "Mom and Dad." You see they are really so alive and vital that it is difficult for them to realize they are invisible.

Occasionally, however, "they" are able to get an impression over to the mind of a Mother. To illustrate my point, I'll relate a little story that proves "they" are alive and that under certain conditions, "they" actually can communicate.

About two years ago, I received a letter from a subscriber. She asked for the address of a good medium in San Francisco. She said a friend was desperately in need of help. I replied by saying I could personally recommend Rev. Florence S. Becker, 194 Brentwood Ave., San Francisco, California.

Sometimes I See

About a year later, I received a letter from this lady—telling me she had moved to New York City and would like to make an appointment with me. Several weeks later I had the extreme pleasure of hearing her story first hand.

Her only son was lost in the war. She was desperate. She knew nothing of spirit communication but the friend I had written to suggested she go to see Mrs. Becker. She attended seances, she talked to her beloved boy. He established his identity by giving many tests.

Again, months later, when I was in New York, I had dinner with this same lady—the same lady that was advised to go to Rev. Becker. Afterward, we strolled down Fifth Avenue and stopped in Schrafft's for ice cream.

Amidst the clatter and noise of this crowded restaurant, I suddenly began to see clairvoyant visions, or "pictures" as I call them, because sometimes I see so clearly, the visions are real pictures.

At the moment we were not discussing Spiritualism or spirits so I refrained from telling her what I saw.

Many Are Helped

Finally, I mustered up the courage to say, "Many clairvoyant visions are passing before my eyes. Would you care to have me tell you what I see? I do not profess to be a developed medium, but what I see may be important to you."

She eagerly replied, "Oh, please, I am longing to hear from the spirit people."

I knew her son was lost, but I had absolutely no knowledge of her affairs or anniversary dates. I described in minute detail, many people and incidents which she

GIFTS FROM THE CARAVAN

Against the horizon of the Christmas sky, once more moves the caravan of the ages, led by the bright Star of Hope, and bearing gifts innumerable to the Eternal Child in the manger of Bethlehem. A bright, colorful caravan it is.

Wise men with streaming beards of white, men versed in the wisdom of the ages, clad in flowing robes of intricate color, a little tattered perhaps through long usage, yet still resplendant with the luster of Promise.

Gifts they bear too, for this Eternal Child, that infinite, subtle something which is you and I. Gold, frankincense, and myrrh they bring; precious jewels too, fraught with the Spirit of the Christmas season and bright with Promise for twelve golden months. These gifts are legion.

Love	that can take us from the disquietude of a restless world to the peace of private happiness.
Courage	The wisdom of reasonable men amidst extremists yet.
Bravery	in unreasonable minds who destroy nations for the thrill of power or because of a new found knowledge spread chaos, ruin, and eventually destroy themselves unless tempered by wisdom.
Youth	which inspires desire and—
Age	which finds contentment without it.
Pleasure	expressed in golden sunshine, the smell of growing things, a touch of the hand, even the companionship of a dog.
Health	ours eternally through hope and the proper adjustment with the Infinite.
Sleep	the companion of personal peace when the weary sun sinks behind the hills.
Memory	which separates pleasure from pain, good from evil, love from hatred and writes them indelibly in the hand-book of yesterday.
Knowledge	which, through new systems of relativity and mathematics, banishes the doom of predestination by suggesting that though some things are probable, nothing is absolutely inevitable tomorrow.
Curiosity	a quality usually attributed to children. Still, aren't we all children?
Companionship	bringing the blessed knowledge that we are capable of loving and of being loved.
Glory	past and present of these United States with its Declaration of Independence which gives freedom of thought and worship to all within the confines of its borders and where no man can deny his brother the ineffable rights with which God endowed him.
Wisdom	which darkens the noon day sun of those who are blind.
Good Intentions	which are not enough but which are much better than bad ones.
and Victory	which frees limited and fettered thought from the chains of prejudice and makes wise men out of fools.

These are some of the gifts the caravan brings to the manger in Bethlehem. Kneeling, contrite, they offer all this before the shrine of Human Life, while angelic hosts in thousand tongues repeat man's ageless paean of song and prayer, "PEACE ON EARTH" good will unto all men.

Arthur A. Myers.

told me conclusively proved spirit identities.

The son gave this message: "Tell Mother I am with her. I am closer to her than when upon earth. I love her more than ever. Tell her I send my love. Please know I am REALLY with her. Tell her to get a red rose and place it in front of my picture. Be very quiet and very still tomorrow. I'll try to make my presence known."

On the surface, it sounds like a very foolish message, and certainly very trivial. But—it was very important to the mother. The following day was the first anniversary of the son's passing. He wanted her to feel and know that he would be close beside her. In the quiet he hoped he could make his presence known.

Why Not Try It?

Usually such an atmosphere as a crowded, noisy restaurant isn't conducive to spirit communication, but when the real need is there, the spirit makes every effort to

make contact, and usually succeeds.

This experience definitely proves that the boys live. They are eager to communicate so it really won't be play-acting for you mothers and fathers to talk to them and include them in the holiday festivities.

At Christmas time, many persons feel an inflowing of this great

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universal spirit of love. Be still and you, too, will be touched by its radiance. Remember that this great power of love will flow through to us, thruout the year, if we will permit it to do so.

Wouldn't it be wonderful to carry the spirit of Christmas the entire year. Let's try it?

I'll relate other experiences in a later letter. I thank everyone for their splendid co-operation in helping to circulate *Psychic Observer*, for their book orders and for the kind letters written to me during the past year. I extend to you my wishes for your very happiest Christmas.

The Spirit of . . . Sharing Gifts

★ ★ ★

There is a mystical and symbolic meaning of these sentences fitting so well into the scheme of things.

The impulse of giving, is a Christ impulse permeating the whole world in these days of Christmas, and dominating the hearts of men, women and children, reinforced by the tremendous outpouring of spiritual power from above through the grace of Christ.

When a Christ child is born in the heart of man, which is the culmination of spiritual development, of overcoming of petty vices, and purification, the man reaching that stage is entering the stream, a new period of life, a rebirth into a higher plane with greater spiritual capacity which will carry him to the appointed goal—perfection.

The Ego which has reached the stage of the birth of Christ in his heart (the dream and greater aim of St. Paul) ("the great event").

Having attained this stage through this "great event," which marks the first great initiation, the way opens for a new vision, greater capacity and spiritual power, and the "Wise Men," the great Masters lay at his feet, "gifts" heretofore unknown to him, Spiritual gifts, Spiritual powers, and faculties, which the Guardians of humanity now feel safe to entrust to him, to shower upon him, to be used for a greater service in the world.

This is the mystic, symbolic and beautiful meaning of these two sentences.

Through the mediumship of
CECIL M. COOK

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(P-176)

Illiteracy Among Sensitives!

Why must this accusation be hurled at some of Spiritualism's better mediums?

A Spirit answers this question and explains some of the difficulties of communication.

The name of the spirit submitting data for this article is unimportant. What he has to say answers an age-old question — Ed.

Be patient with Communicating Spirits. They Do Not Claim To Be Infalible.

I want to tell you about the many difficulties that will ever exist when we try to communicate with those in the flesh. They are very little understood by earth-people and I know you are often faced with the question: *If my dear one can speak or write directly through a medium, why can he not as easily speak through me?*

My answer is, that in order to communicate with you we have to learn how to manipulate the vibrations of the human brain. These differ in each individual, and until we acquire proficiency, and you learn to give us the necessary conditions, you cannot hear the inner voice.

At all times it is difficult for us to convey our true meaning. Many things we cannot explain, because they are beyond your present understanding; we cannot put into earth language many truths of this higher life so as to make them intelligible to you.

Impressions Inadequate

Sometimes your minds are too excited to allow us to manipulate them properly, and so you get only a dim idea of our impressions. When this is the condition we feel much as you do when sketching a landscape. You see the beauty, your whole soul is stirred by it, but your ability to give it expression is so limited that you are filled with despair when you see the result of your work.

Even when I am impressing your mind, which is so familiar to me, I often see how poor and inadequate are the written words, and how little I have made you realize the glory of what I want to tell you.

Remember, I do not blame you for this, any more than you would blame your paints and brushes: I only long to perfect my instrument to learn better how to manipulate the vibrations and how to help you to a fuller development of your psychic gifts.

Tests Are difficult

We often find channels of power and usefulness in the minds of very simple folk, and it is through these that we learn to speak and to manifest. Their very simplicity, and absence of all doubt and questioning, helps us to communicate. But here again we meet with obstacles, such as the want of education to give grammatical expression to our thought, and the inability, through poverty, to publish and circulate what has been received.

Then there is the difficulty of answering the tests you impose upon us. They seem so simple to you, but often they are impossible to us, while it may be quite easy to give you a voluntary test. So I would advise you, when investi-

gating this subject, not to fix your own tests, because if you try to confirm them (probably through a psychic who is new to us) and we fail, it has a disastrous effect upon the faith of the investigator.

Suppose, in order to prove the existence of a telephone, you demand that a special message, unknown to the operator, should be transmitted, and this could not be done—would this be a real test of its existence and efficiency? Well—you impose far more difficult and impossible conditions upon us.

Mind Must Be Receptive

We know well that you must have tests, and we will give them to you, often when you least expect them. As you gain experience in writing, many beautiful things, of which you could know nothing in your normal consciousness, will be revealed to you, and bring conviction that it is we who are communicating. When we find a mind still and receptive, we can give many convincing tests.

But, above all things, you must be patient with us. When mistakes happen, or things you do not understand, just go on quietly, undismayed; later the mistakes will often be explained and the doubts vanish.

Spiritual Advancement

I have mentioned some of the difficulties we find in communicating with you on earth, but there are many others. If the discarnate spirit has died in total ignorance of the possibility of communion, he may remain so for many years. Again, he may be in a sphere of probation and not permitted to return—or he may return, and being unable to impress the loved one of his presence, he may be too discouraged to persevere.

Or, it may not be for the highest good of the one still on earth to continue to lean on the stronger mind which has passed on, and for her higher spiritual advancement she may, for a time, be compelled to battle alone. And there are many amongst you, with excitable, unbalanced natures, to whom the opening of the door to the psychic world would be dangerous in the highest degree.

But when we have taken all these points into consideration, there are many, very many, to whom this communion between the two worlds has been as the gate of heaven to their souls, and they have been permitted to share the angels' food, a veritable communion of saints.

Be Informed!

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CHICAGO MEDIUM



Psychic Observer:
ALLURA HUBBARD, Healer and Medium, 6851 George St., Chicago (34) Illinois; associated for many years with The Metropolitan Spiritualist Church and The First Church of Spirit Healing.

Make Christmas The Real Thing

This Message Received From General Booth Through the Trance Mediumship of Winifred Moyes at Zodiac Circle, London.

I want to give a Christmas message to the poor—yes, and to the rich! I want to say to them that the battle is going to the strong, the spiritually strong; and I want all those who have done their bit, who have faced up to the fire of the enemy, to realize that at Christmas time the gates of Heaven are opened, and we come into the earth conditions, like *Father Christmas*, laden with our gifts. That's the part I like, that's the part that suits me—to feel that we can give and give to those who are without!

But we have to be practical, you know; it is no use wishing or hoping or trying to build something that will act as a ship for *Father Christmas*, unless we have got the men to man the machines below; and that's what I am coming to.

Self-Expressed Happiness

I want every one who takes the trouble to read my words to make up their mind that this *Christmas* they are going to do a little more for someone who is down-hearted or in trouble, just a little more than they have ever done before, and so there will be songs of praise in Heaven; and the "*Hallelujahs*" that come from our hearts, well, they are too sacred to be expressed in words!

But I have come to give this message—a message from the old General to the poor—and to ask them, in turn, to try to do their little bit for someone who is worse off still. That's the way to make the Christmas bells ring, that's the way to set flowing the happiness that worldly strife has seemed to stem!

Praise be to God that there are so many of my own people who are recognizing that the barriers between the two worlds can be broken down! Praise God for the faithful workers in my own ranks. According to their efforts they are blessed, according to their understanding so the Light shines upon them! They have heard the cry to be up and doing. And that is my message to humanity: It is TO BE UP AND DOING!

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SPIRITUALISM AND THE BOMB

VIBRATION IS CREATION

By Johan Wien,
Author of
Bible Mysteries Revealed

August 6, 1945, is a date in history which will be long remembered as on that day an American army flyer in an American bomber dropped an atomic bomb on the large industrial city of *Hiroshima* in Japan and completely obliterated the city and more than 200,000 inhabitants in a few seconds.

Since the power wrapped up in a tiny atom has been released by our American scientists, some have expressed the fear of the possibility of some misguided fanatic exterminating the whole human race.

However, if we stop to think for a moment we will realize that there is a higher power who is omnipresent and who rules this universe in wisdom.

"This universe is fool proof," as Ernest Holmes said recently, and really there is nothing to fear.

But, you ask, what is an atom, this terrific engine of destruction?

An atom is a congregation of electrons, so tiny it cannot be seen by the human eye.

Then what is an electron?

An electron is a whorl of energy in the ether. The ether is also called space, and cosmic substance and Spirit substance.

An electron is the first appearance of Spirit substance as matter.

Creative Mind

Dr. Robert Millikan says there is no dividing line where Spirit leaves off and matter begins.

Electricity is electrons in motion and electrons were set in motion by Creative Mind.

Electricity is tenuous matter.

Our modern scientists say in defining an atom that one million atoms may be placed on the diameter of the head of a pin. Inside of each atom is a nucleus one ten thousandth of the diameter of one atom. Arranged around this nucleus in the case of the metal uranium are .92 electrons, and inside of this nucleus are exactly 238 positrons and 146 negatrons.

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If one electron is added to or taken away from this nucleus, it becomes some other metal.

It is the metal uranium that is used in the manufacture of atomic bombs.

Iron, gold, tin, steel and all forms of matter are simply electrons arranged in different formations and vibrating at different rates.

"Electrons are the building blocks of the universe."

The "Word" of God

Ancient alchemists were always trying to transmute lead and baser metals into gold, but they did not know how to raise the vibration of lead to the vibration of gold.

Did Jesus understand vibration when he turned water into wine?

The old Grecian philosophers taught that vibration was the secret of nature; they called it number instead of vibration.

Dr. Millikan says electrons are formed in inter-stellar space where it is cold. They are disintegrated within the interior of suns. Helium, iron, silicon and oxygen are formed in inter-stellar space where it is coldest in the universe. The atoms composing these gases are disintegrated in the interior of suns where the temperature is the hottest in the universe.

This is perpetual motion. Spirit substance or Maya, Virgin substance, being formed, deformed and reformed to infinity. Dr. Anderson was awarded the Nobel prize for constructing a camera that would take a picture of an electron.

What we call violet color is only electrons vibrating at the rate of 700 quintillion vibrations per second.

There is no danger that the earth will ever come to an end.

The earth is composed of 92 chemicals and these chemicals are made up of molecules, atoms and electrons, and the electrons were created by what we choose to call God.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God."

"And God said" was the creative fiat. The "word" is vibration and vibration is creation.

Powes Unlimited

When gun powder, dynamite, cannon and later the war plane were discovered, the fear was expressed that the earth could be decimated by some ambitious evil personality, but we are still here. We may feel sure that the Creator knows His business and that He will not allow any of His creatures to disrupt His plans. We should feel safe and secure in this knowledge.

On the other hand, we should be happy the unlimited power of the atom has been uncovered. Scientists say an atomic engine as large as your hand could power an automobile. Won't it be wonderful when we can have an individual airplane powered by an atomic engine that requires no fuel except air? We could make our home on the mountain top and fly to work every morning.

Archaeologists have uncovered tablets of stone from the sites of historic cities that state there were airplanes that operated without fuel on this earth 70,000 years ago, and also an account of where one of them was shot down by a ray gun.

It may be true, as the psychologists say, that as a race we are only twelve to fourteen years of age.

BHAGAVAD-GITA(*)

MY REASON FOR ITS INTERPRETATION

by
WESLEY LAVIOLETTE

So many have asked me why I "interpreted" the *Bhagavad Gita* that I shall give some reasons.

Actually, most answers will be as significant as to try to explain why I've written symphonies, an opera, or chamber music; or why I've written poetry, and been interested in occult subject, Indian lore, philosophy, and psychology all my life.

Always I've been asking of life "Why?" Always, never ceasing to wonder at life, at people. Some explain these interests of mine as having been attained in many former lives; for others, that they exist is enough. In any case, I am what I am.

As the *Occidental Bible* has had many versions and revisions, I could see no reason why one of the *Oriental Bibles* shouldn't be revised, interpreted, or whatever you choose to call it.

Teachings Clarified

If we believe in the inspiration of *Universal Consciousness*, the *Cosmic Mind*, then its expression of five thousand years ago is still valid. Nor is the manifestation of that *Cosmic Mind* limited to individuals, peoples, nations, races, creeds, or times.

The *Hindu epic* has been translated again and again from Sanskrit into English, and other languages. I felt the need of sharing its poetic beauty, its rich philosophy with many others.

It needed to be simplified. The *Gita* is filled with hundreds of Indian proper names, with many symbols no longer acceptable to modern thought. I wished to clarify its teachings, wished to make it more readable, more attractive to every seeker after Truth, and so omitted all proper names, and most symbols.

Only our perspectives change, Truth never alters. So this modern version in English free verse is created for the worker, the man in the street, the common folk who are seeking some ray of light in our common darkness and confusion.

Then, too, I believed the time had come to revive the ancient teachings of the *Gita* for the com-

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The above is the number of the present issue of *PSYCHIC OBSERVER*. You will find this number in the upper left hand corner of the first page. This number is advanced every two weeks — showing the number of *PSYCHIC OBSERVERS* issued up to date. The date of this paper is:

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RECENTLY ORDAINED



Psychic Observer

REV. INABELLE W. B. ALDRICH, Lecturer, Teacher, Healer and mental medium; 1 Rockland Park, Malden (48) Massachusetts; minister of the Christian Spiritualist Church, (I.G.A. S.) 48 Washington St., Malden. Has been a spiritualist and medium for nine years received Morris Pratt Institute certificate from the late Thomas Grimshaw.

Instrumental in obtaining her church affiliation and in collaborating with her for spiritual unfoldment were: Daisy Horne, Worcester, Mass.; Rev. Millicent Wilson, Reading, Mass.; Rev. John E. Reese, Boston, Mass., and Rev. M. McBride Panton, Stamford, Conn.

Christmas Reflections

By DR. J. M. PEEBLES

Our thought, now widening, extends over lands and seas. God's witnesses of immortality have made radiant every realm of this planet. How brilliant the evening of Krishna's birth. How musical the songs of attending angels! Krishna, Gautama, Jesus, and Gauranga, all Asian Saviours in their time and place, and all demonstrators of the law of continuity in the sphere of Divine order, whether physical or ethical.

Human life at longest is brief. We brought nothing material into this world and we can take nothing material out of it; and it is of little consequence whether anyone

fort of many today. Depressed by fear of what may still come, torn by anguish at what we know, feel, and hear on every hand, the quiet beauty and power of the spiritual classic comes anew with its message of comfort, its imperishable glow for all who will listen, for all who will follow its Light.

Whether or not one understands or accepts the theory of birth and rebirth, of reincarnation, of living many lives here on earth until the eternal soul awakens to its oneness with the *Infinite Mind*, and so is released from the laws of rebirth, the ageless Hindu teaching presents that frequently misunderstood doctrine and I have tried to clarify it in my new version.

Becker and Zenor

I shall always be grateful to the mediumship of Florence Becker and Richard Zenor. Through them I came into communication with my teacher Krishna, ancient Hindu master. Through his guidance and teaching many of the complicated passages in the *Gita* were simplified and made clear for me.

After a lifetime of service in the fine arts, both as creator and interpreter, I know full well that the final responsibility for my work in art or philosophy rests on me. For inspiration I am indebted to a vast host of loved ones, teachers, friends, and pupils on both sides of life.

If at times I have faltered or grown weary, it has been my own stumbling, my own doubting, my own weariness. *Divine Mind, Creative Intelligence, Universal Love* have never failed.

was born in a palace or a peasant's hut.

It is reported that Jesus the Christ was born in a manger, and yet in a few hundred years, proud, imperial Rome trembled from her foundations because of the psychic forces concealed in that manger. Christmas points the thinking mind back to that humble birth, to that man, medium, and martyr who, while going about doing good, had not where to lay his head. And Christians in all enlightened countries are now honoring that inspired martyr.

Messenger from Heaven

It is absolutely amazing, how this character, Jesus the Christ, strikes the minds of different people. To the uncultured and atheistic-agnostic, *Jesus* never lived — he was a mere myth; to the great German, *Strauss*, he was a wise Rabbi; to the great Jewish Rabbi *Akiba*, he was a magician; to the illustrious *Renan*, he was a sublime moral teacher; to *Fourier*, a warm-hearted Socialist; to *Fenelon*, a most rapt mystic; to *Thomas Paine*, the most sincere of philanthropists; to *Max Muller*, the harmony of all history; to *Emerson*, the transcendental prophet; to *Parker*, a fellow brother and self-sacrificing reformer; to *A. J. Davis*, the great Syrian Seer; to *Cora L. V. Richmond*, the messenger from heaven; to *Helen T. Brigham*, he was the ethical reformer; to *George W. Fuller*, the poet-philosopher; to *Robert Peebles Sudall*, he was the Oriental revealer, and *Colonel Ingersoll* spoke of him as a "most generous and self-denying man, for whom I feel only admiration and profound respect."

The above illustrious men and women, express my conceptions of that *Judean Christ* who, using the inspired words of that eminent speaker and author, *W. J. Colville*, is now undoubtedly "the reigning power of the moral universe."

While orthodox sectarists, calling themselves Christians, make Jesus of Nazareth a God, or at least a third part of God in the Trinity, Spiritualists and Liberalists in America, consider Jesus a highly-inspired man, begotten naturally, yet on a higher spiritual plane of consciousness than the masses of mankind. The world has had many Christs in past ages; and as the world develops and unfolds, there will be still more great Christ souls as saviours of the world.

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LILY DALE, N. Y., U. S. A.

What I Observe
by
R. G. Pressing



SPIRITUALISM'S 100th ANNIVERSARY

Spiritualist societies, churches and organizations everywhere are looking forward to the historical event—*The 100th Anniversary of Modern Spiritualism* during 1948. Where and when it will be held (meaning whether it will be celebrated on the exact date, March 31st, or some other date during 1948) is a trifle vague. It seems that it should be as near that day in March as possible and reasonably close to Hydesville, N. Y. (near Rochester) where Modern Spiritualism first had its beginning.

Of course, the real headquarters for such an important event should be Buffalo, N. Y.—only 44 miles north of Lily Dale, to which point the Fox Cottage was moved in 1916. No celebration would be fitting or complete unless one day be set aside for a pilgrimage to the Fox Cottage the "BIRTHPLACE OF MODERN SPIRITUALISM". During March of any year, the climate in upper New York State is generally "snow and cold" but arrangements for the proper accommodation of visitors could easily be made.

Furthermore, if held in the vicinity of Buffalo—the nearest city large enough to handle the thousands that would plan to attend, it is quite possible that *Flo Cottrell* could be present. Miss Cottrell is the medium, through whose instrumentality, raps can be heard — raps similar to those demonstrated by the Fox Sisters in 1848.

It is not the purpose of this article to lead the reader to believe that *PSYCHIC OBSERVER* has any plans to sponsor and arrange such a convention, meeting or anniversary celebration but it is imperative that Spiritualists throughout the country give serious thought to the best plan to adopt.

Frankly, it is really the job of every Spiritualist organization in the United States to try to work out a feasible program for this 1948 event, either separately or as a group. The important thing is to plan, and discuss various ideas at forthcoming conventions and agree on a date and place for the anniversary.

Naturally, each church and society may have an individual celebration March 31st, 1948—that is to be expected but this need not take away from the fact that many from each church will also be able to attend the main celebration at the point in the U.S.A. decided upon.

Even now, Great Britain plans to celebrate this anniversary in London. Just how elaborate are their plans is not known but it would be tragic if they were able to create interest up to the point where Americans would choose to go to England to celebrate an event that had its beginning in this country.

It is natural that the event should be celebrated in London but who knows they may not strive to "out-do" us . . . not that rivalry is to be feared but the time has come when all American Spiritualists should give thought to a unified plan whereby the world will know that Spiritualism is here to stay.

There is no other single project that would do more toward the unification of the movement of *Modern Spiritualism* than for all the Spiritualists in this country to work toward one goal and after two years of planning, possibly all organizations will find that they can work together . . . and when they find that out, one of the questions that has been asked repeatedly for years, will have been answered and that question is: "WHY DO NOT THE SPIRITUALISTS HAVE ONE ORGANIZATION?"

The stand taken by *PSYCHIC OBSERVER* on this forthcoming event is simply this. We welcome letters and proposals as to what should be done and how to proceed. Any church, society or organization that chooses to express an idea can write to this office, either in the name of their organization or individually. These suggestions, when constructive, can be published in this journal from time to time. All can read them and by exchanging ideas, a well formulated procedure can be offered.

If you write to the *Psychic Observer* and offer suggestions as to organization of Spiritualists for the 1948 Anniversary of "Modern Spiritualism," address all communications to:

Spiritualism's Anniversary 1948

Box 92, Lily Dale, N. Y.

Have your letter typewritten, one side of the paper, triple space. State where you think the anniversary should be held, who should organize it, when it should be held (exactly on March 31st or not) whether there should be a fund raised, if so, to what central point should the money be sent.

State whether you think it feasible for each organization to appoint a delegate and for all delegates to meet and form a committee? Express yourself on all of these ideas. If the above questions are answered, your letter or proposal will, in all probability, be published.

The first thing for every church and organization to do is to assemble, either at a directors meeting or enmasse and discuss the proposition—then appoint someone to submit the ideas on paper. For individuals, such a procedure will not be necessary. MAY WE HEAR FROM YOU?

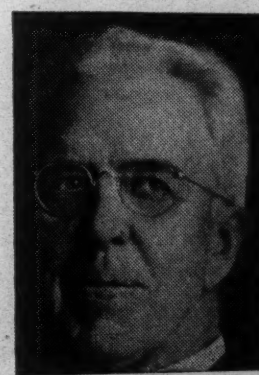
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(P-176)

The mediumship of Rev. Floyd Humble

Conclusive Evidence of Survival Through Illi- nois Trance Medium.

FIVE VOUCH FOR LILY DALE SEANCE

Last summer, during the current *Lily Dale Assembly* season, a special seance was held for the *Psychic Observer* editors. The medium was *Rev. Floyd Humble*, Bloomington, Illinois. It was a demonstration of trance mediumship, far and above the average not only because of the smooth technique of the controlling entities but also due to the fact that numerous evidences of personality, definitely foreign to the medium, were expressed.

Others present at this seance: *Albert Custer*, Colden, N. Y.; *Lillian Wildrick*, 59 Pama Ave., Buffalo, N. Y. and *Sadie McIntyre* (88) one of the founders of The Central New York Spiritualist Association, Freeville, N. Y.

Humble's principal spirit collaborator, *Ulam*, briefly discussed the general procedure used in controlling his instrument and delivered a short discourse on spirit

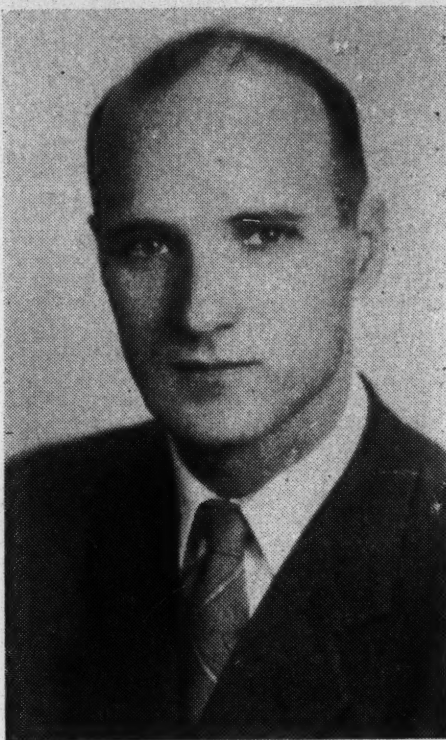
philosophy and three aspects of universal expression of Divine Law.

From this point and continuing throughout the entire seance, each control was most successful in being able to bring through conclusive and evidential messages of personal conscious survival . . . even to accurate and detailed descriptions of furnishings in homes the medium could not possibly have visited or known about — going back from 40 to 50 years in one instance.

This type of message is made possible through the training of spirit entities, known as scouts or runners, whose job it is to collect data and evidence that will be conclusive—proving that intelligences, other than the mediums, are actually able to get about and present through their earth instrument that which is needed at any particular time.

It is by means of this and other types and phases of mediumship that proof of life after death, evidence of continuing personality and real solace in times of stress is brought to a world that needs to know, more than ever before, that survival is a fact and can under the proper conditions be proven to those who will take the trouble to seek for themselves.

TO BE FEATURED AT
CASSADAGA CAMP



Psychic Observer
REV. FLOYD HUMBLE, minister for the First Church of The Spiritualist, 608½ Main St., Bloomington, Illinois. During the past summer, he served *Brady Lake Spiritualist Camp*, *Brady Lake, Ohio*. He is a lecturer, teacher, mental and trance medium.

Rev. Humble is scheduled on the official 1946 program (Jan., Feb. and March) at The Southern Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp-Meeting Association, Cassadaga, Florida, for lectures and message work during the month of February.

Cassadaga Florida Directors Announce 1946 Season

Meetings To Be Held Jan., Feb. and March

According to a recent folder released by the board of directors of *The Southern Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp-Meeting Association*, the 52nd annual season will begin at Cassadaga, Florida, January 1st, 1946 and continue through February and March.

Maude Kline, nationally-known blind fold billet medium is scheduled for the entire season; *Floyd Humble*, Bloomington, Illinois lecturer and trance medium—during the month of February; *Edward A. Lohman*, noted lecturer and teacher of the science, philosophy and religion of Spiritualism, during the month of March.

Materialization seances will be held every Saturday evening throughout the winter season by *Clarence Britton*, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Services will be held in The Cassadaga auditorium, Sunday at 2:00 and 4:30 P. M.; Monday, 7:30 P. M.; Wednesday, 7:30 P. M. and Thursday, 2:30 P. M.

Cassadaga is located in Volusia County, Florida—20 miles west of *Daytona Beach*; 6 miles south-east of *Deland*; 100 miles south of *Jacksonville* and 332 miles north of *Miami*.

Hotel Cassadaga, a strictly modern stucco building, will open Thanksgiving Day, 1945 and remain open until May 1st, 1946. There are 42 rooms, private baths, meals at reasonable rates, according to *Maurice McGill*, new hotel manager.

The members of the board of directors: President, *Edna Dittman*; Vice President, *Ethel Babcock*; Secretary, *Reid Williams*; Treasurer, *Henry Schmid*; Trustees *W. F. Smith*, *Justin Williams* and *Edgar Eldridge*.

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After long years of search, I learned how to overcome these troubles, deriving as they do from essentially the same causes. The method is natural, drugless, easy to understand, thoroughly practical—but so little known. Yet it is the only way to prevent and overcome common troubles that destroy life and happiness. Wrinkles lessen. Life is prolonged. Even my eyesight improved tremendously.

It would appear from my research, moreover, that my discoveries apply not only to the troubles that I have already mentioned (and with which I have had personal experience), but also they apply in great measure to most other troubles—such as appendicitis, asthma, cataracts, stomach ulcers, diabetes, arthritis or rheumatism, headaches, feelings of fear and insecurity, cancer, tuberculosis, and even stuttering.

That you can benefit from my experience is beyond doubt. Even if you are in good health now, you can improve it. And over a period of time you cannot fail to save yourself and family many dollars in needless health expenses.

The story of my discoveries, embodying the knowledge of which I speak and specific instructions, I have published in a small treatise. New and revised it sells for \$2. You are very welcome to try my treatise for a few days before deciding to keep it. Within two days you should feel some results.

However, if you do not feel results enough to assure you of the greater benefits to come from the continued application of the information in my treatise, just return it (within ten days) and get your two dollars back. For I know what it has done for me: I know what it is doing for others. And I would rather have you send it back than be unsatisfied. Write me today, using coupon below. (P-178)

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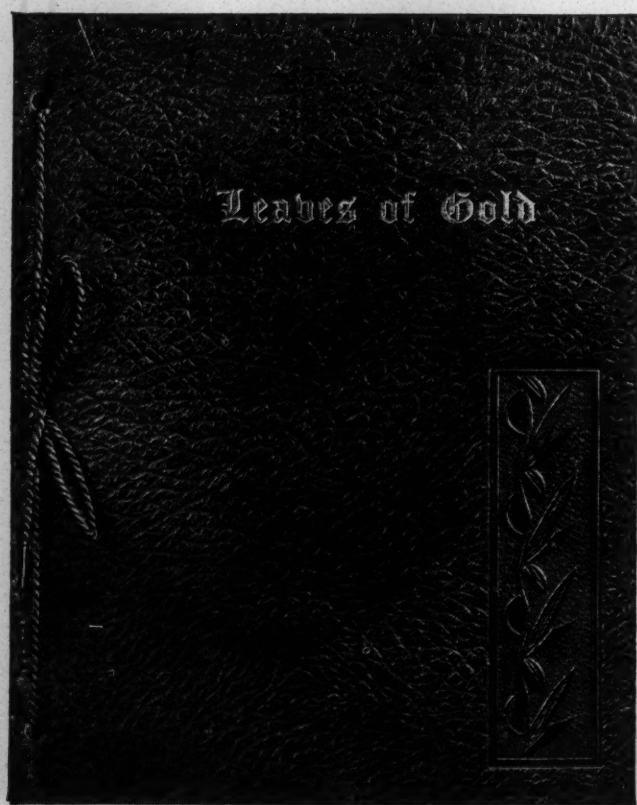
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